

team on winning its fifth National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Men's Hockey Championship. **Pages S2741–42**

National Safe Digging Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 438, to support the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month. **Page S2742**

Measures Considered:

Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S. 1925, to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, after agreeing to the motion to proceed. **Pages S2664–83, S2697–S2720**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 26, 2012, that the Senate be in a period of debate only until 11:30 a.m., and that after the remarks of the two Leaders, the time until 11:30 a.m. be equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first 45 minutes and the Majority controlling the second 45 minutes. **Pages S2697–98**

Costa and Guaderrama Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 11:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 26, 2012, Senate begin consideration of the nominations of Gregg Jeffrey Costa, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, and David Campos Guaderrama, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas; that there be 30 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote, without intervening action or debate, on confirmation of the nominations in the order listed; that no further motions be in order; and that following the votes on confirmation of the nominations, the Majority Leader be recognized. **Page S2722**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Terrence G. Berg, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Jesus G. Bernal, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Shelly Deckert Dick, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Louisiana.

Lorna G. Schofield, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Charles R. Breyer, of California, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2015.

A routine list in the Army.

Pages S2742–43

Messages from the House:

Page S2725

Measures Referred:

Page S2725

Measures Placed on the Calendar:

Pages S2725, S2742

Executive Communications:

Pages S2725–27

Petitions and Memorials:

Pages S2727–30

Executive Reports of Committees:

Page S2730

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S2731–32

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S2732–37

Additional Statements:

Pages S2724–25

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S2737–41

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S2741

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—82) **Pages S2684, S2687–90, S2696**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:33 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 26, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2742.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: NATIONAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a closed hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for national and military intelligence programs, after receiving testimony from James R. Clapper, Jr., Director of National Intelligence; and Tom Ferguson, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine ballistic missile defense policies and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from J. Michael Gilmore, Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, Bradley H. Roberts, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Nuclear and Missile Defense Policy, Lieutenant General Patrick J. O'Reilly, USA, Director, Missile Defense Agency, and Lieutenant General Richard P. Formica, USA, Commander, United States Army Space and Missile

Defense Command, Army Forces Strategic Command, and Commander, Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense, all of the Department of Defense; and Cristina T. Chaplain, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine the Active, Guard, Reserve, and civilian personnel programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Thomas R. Lamont, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Juan M. Garcia III, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Daniel B. Ginsberg, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff G-1, Vice Admiral Scott R. Van Buskirk, USN, Chief of Naval Personnel, Lieutenant General Robert E. Milstead Jr., USMC, Assistant Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Lieutenant General Darrell D. Jones, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services, all of the Department of Defense.

HOMEOWNERS REFINANCING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development concluded a hearing to examine helping homeowners save money through refinancing, after receiving testimony from Christopher J. Mayer, Columbia Business School, and Laurie S. Goodman, Amherst Securities Group LP, both of New York, New York; Debra W. Still, Mortgage Bankers Association, Englewood, Colorado; Anthony B. Sanders, George Mason University Mercatus Center, Washington, D.C.; and Michael Calhoun, Center for Responsible Lending, Durham, North Carolina.

TAX REFORM

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine tax reform, focusing on what it means for state and local tax and fiscal policy, after receiving testimony from Frank Sammartino, Assistant Director for Tax Analysis, Congressional Budget Office; Kim Rueben, Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, and Joseph Henchman, Tax Foundation, both of Washington, D.C.; Walter Hellerstein, University of Georgia Law School, Athens; and Sanford Zinman, National Conference of CPA Practitioners, White Plains, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 241, to expand whistleblower protections to non-Federal employees whose disclosures involve misuse of Federal funds, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2061, to provide for an exchange of land between the Department of Homeland Security and the South Carolina State Ports Authority, with an amendment;

S. 1673, establish the Office of Agriculture Inspection within the Department of Homeland Security, which shall be headed by the Assistant Commissioner for Agriculture Inspection, and for other purposes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1998, to obtain an unqualified audit opinion, and improve financial accountability and management at the Department of Homeland Security, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 3902, to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to revise the timing of special elections for local office in the District of Columbia;

H.R. 2668, to designate the station of the United States Border Patrol located at 2136 South Naco Highway in Bisbee, Arizona, as the "Brian A. Terry Border Patrol Station";

S. Res. 419, expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the United States during Public Service Recognition week;

H.R. 298, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 East Whitestone Boulevard in Cedar Park, Texas, as the "Army Specialist Matthew Troy Morris Post Office Building";

H.R. 1423, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 4th Avenue Southwest in Ardmore, Oklahoma, as the "Specialist Micheal E. Phillips Post Office";

H.R. 2079, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10 Main Street in East Rockaway, New York, as the "John J. Cook Post Office";

H.R. 2213, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Eastport Street in Iuka, Mississippi, as the "Sergeant Jason W. Vaughn Post Office";

H.R. 2244, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 67 Castle Street in Geneva, New York, as the "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office";

H.R. 2660, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 North

Holderrieth Boulevard in Tomball, Texas, as the “Tomball Veterans Post Office”;

H.R. 2767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8 West Silver Street in Westfield, Massachusetts, as the “William T. Trant Post Office Building”;

H.R. 3004, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 260 California Drive in Yountville, California, as the “Private First Class Alejandro R. Ruiz Post Office Building”;

H.R. 3246, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15455 Manchester Road in Ballwin, Missouri, as the “Specialist Peter J. Navarro Post Office Building”;

H.R. 3247, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the “Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building”;

H.R. 3248, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 112 South 5th Street in Saint Charles, Missouri, as the “Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver Post Office Building”; and

The nominations of Tony Hammond, of Missouri, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, Mark A. Robbins, of California, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and Roy Wallace McLeese III, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An original bill entitled “Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act”; and

The nominations of Deborah S. Delisle, of South Carolina, to be Assistant Secretary of Education for Elementary and Secondary Education, Bonnie L. Bassler, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation,

and Adam Gamoran, of Wisconsin, Judith D. Singer, of Massachusetts, Hirokazu Yoshikawa, of Massachusetts, and David James Chard, of Texas, all to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences.

HOMELAND SECURITY OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security.

SENATE CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE PARITY ACT

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 219, to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form, after receiving testimony from Senator Tester; Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate; and Paul S. Ryan, The Campaign Legal Center, Washington, D.C.

VETERANS' AFFAIRS MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Veterans Affairs mental health care, focusing on evaluating access and assessing care, after receiving testimony from William Schoenhard, Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations Management, Mary Schohn, Director, Office of Mental Health Operations, and Antonette Zeiss, Chief Consultant, Office of Mental Health Services, all of the Veterans Health Administration, and Linda A. Halliday, Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, and John D. Daigh, Jr., Assistant Inspector General for Healthcare Inspections, both of the Office of Inspector General, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Major General T.S. Jones, USMC (Ret.), Outdoor Odyssey Youth Development and Leadership Academy, Lake Ridge, Virginia; and Nicholas Tolentino, Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 196 public bills, H.R. 4621–4816 and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 632–633 were introduced. **Pages H2123–26**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2134–35**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2308, to improve the consideration by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the costs and benefits of its regulations and orders, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–453) and

H. Res. 631, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3523) to provide for the sharing of certain cyber threat intelligence and cyber threat information between the intelligence community and cybersecurity entities, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4628) to extend student loan interest rates for undergraduate Federal Direct Stafford Loans; and for other purposes. **Page H2123**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Palazzo to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2073**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:51 a.m. and reconvened at 1 p.m. **Page H2078**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Matthew Barnes, Capital Commission Indiana, Indianapolis, Indiana. **Page H2078**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Digital Accountability and Transparency Act: H.R. 2146, amended, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require accountability and transparency in Federal spending and for other purposes, as amended. **Pages H2082–95**

Small Business Credit Availability Act: H.R. 3336, amended, to ensure the exclusion of small lenders from certain regulations of the Dodd-Frank Act, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 312 yeas to 111 nays, Roll No. 180. **Pages H2095–99, H2107**

Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012, Part II: The House disagreed to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 4348, to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs, and agreed to a conference with the Senate.

Pages H2099–H2106, H2106–07, H2108

Rejected the Rahall motion to instruct conferees on the bill by a yeas-and-nays vote of 181 yeas to 242 nays, Roll No. 179. **Page H2106**

The Chair appointed the following conferees: From the Committee on Transportation and Infra-

structure, for consideration of the House bill (except section 141) and the Senate amendment (except secs. 1801, 40102, 40201, 40202, 40204, 40205, 40305, 40307, 40309–40312, 100112–100114, and 100116), and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Mica, Young (AK), Duncan (TN), Shuster, Capito, Crawford, Herrera Beutler, Bucshon, Hanna, Southerland, Lankford, Ribble, Rahall, DeFazio, Costello, Norton, Nadler, Brown (FL), Cummings, Boswell, and Bishop (NY).

Page H2108

From the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for consideration of sec. 142 and titles II and V of the House bill, and secs. 1113, 1201, 1202, subtitles B, C, D, and E of title I of Division C, secs. 32701–32705, 32710, 32713, 40101, and 40301 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Upton, Whitfield, and Waxman. **Page H2108**

From the Committee on Natural Resources, for consideration of secs. 123, 142, 204, and titles III and VI of the House bill, and sec. 1116, subtitles C, F, and G of title I of Division A, sec. 33009, titles VI and VII of Division C, sec. 40101, subtitles A and B of title I of Division F, and sec. 100301 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Hastings (WA), Bishop (UT), and Markey. **Page H2108**

From the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology for consideration of secs. 121, 123, 136, and 137 of the House bill, and sec. 1534, subtitle F of title I of Division A, secs. 20013, 20014, 20029, 31101, 31103, 31111, 31204, 31504, 32705, 33009, 34008, and Division E of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Hall, Cravaack, and Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX). **Page H2108**

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of secs. 141 and 142 of the House bill, and secs. 1801, 40101, 40102, 40201, 40202, 40204, 40205, 40301–40307, 40309–40314, 100112–100114, and 100116 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Representatives Camp, Tiberi, and Blumenauer. **Page H2108**

Recess: The House recessed at 3:24 p.m. and reconvened at 4:45 p.m. **Page H2106**

Suspension: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated yesterday, April 24th:

Authorizing the conveyance of two small parcels of land within the boundaries of the Coconino National Forest: H.R. 1038, amended, to authorize the conveyance of two small parcels of land within the boundaries of the Coconino National Forest containing private improvements that were developed